

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 1 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 Boston, MA 02109-3912

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

To: All Interested Persons

Pursuant to the FY 2004, FY 2005 and FY 2006 Appropriations Acts, as amended, we have received an Environmental Assessment (EA) for:

Town of Waitsfield 9 Bridge Street Waitsfield, VT 05673

Total Proposed Project Cost

\$10,525,000

USEPA Special Appropriations Grant No. EM-96127701-0 (FY's 04, 05 and 06)

Total USEPA Grant Amount

\$ 2,882,100

The proposed project consists of the planning, design and construction of a new municipal water system in the Town of Waitsfield, Vermont. The service area of the proposed system generally encompasses the Town's two village districts, Irasville and historic Waitsfield Village and includes properties along the transmission route and below the elevation of the water storage tank. The proposed project will include these major components:

- Source water will be obtained from a drilled well located on Reed Road off of Long Road with a permitted yield of 186 gallons per minute. This well is sufficient to provide the projected future demands of the proposed service area.
- Approximately 6,000 linear feet of new 6-inch water transmission main from the well to the proposed storage tank site.
- A proposed storage tank located off of Bushnell Road with approximately 400,000 gallons of storage capacity to provide fire protection.
- Approximately 11,200 linear feet of new 12-inch water transmission main from the storage tank to the distribution system.

 A new distribution system including approximately 8,500 linear feet of water main, hydrants, valves, and appurtenances.

According to the Environmental Assessments prepared by the United States Department of Agricultures Office of Rural Development (USDARD), the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VTDEC) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the environmental concerns of the proposed project are expected to be minimal and no adverse environmental impacts are anticipated.

A detailed description of the project is included in the attached Environmental Assessment and Findings of No Significant Impact issued by the USEPA, USDARD and VTDEC.

Through an independent review of the project and issuance of its own Environmental Assessment, EPA reaffirms the previous Finding of No Significant Impact determinations made by the USDARD and VTDEC. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Comments relative to this decision may be submitted to EPA for review, with a copy to the VTDEC. No grant award will be made to the Town of Waitsfield for at least thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of this Finding.

Additional documentation regarding this project is available for public review at the address above and at the EPA Regional Office in Boston, MA and online at www.epa.gov/region1/grants/waitsfield stag fonsi.doc.

Stephen S. Perkins, Director

Office of Ecosystem Protection

Date Issued